



Attorney Docket: 027/49351
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: MARTIN DERLETH ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/714,456

Examiner: S. Carpenter

Filed: NOVEMBER 17, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3612

Title: DASHBOARD OF A PASSENGER MOTOR VEHICLE
AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

Request for Reconsideration
#29
8/20/03

REPLY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

This Reply is being filed in response to the Office Action dated April 7, 2003 (Paper No. 27).

Claims 16-21 are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,559,868 to Nonaka et al. Reconsideration is again requested.

The Examiner considers the Nonaka et al. top or upper panel 6 to be a "cover part" and the Nonaka et al. top wall portion 29 to be a "housing part" as claims 16 and 19 define. The Nonaka et al. top or upper panel 6, however, does not have "slotted recesses therein for receiving ... fastening structure" with which the wall portion 29 is provided as claims 16 and 19 require. Although the Nonaka et al. wall portions 27 and 29 are provided with screws 51, 52 which form fastening structure, these screws 51, 52 are received in bores rather than slotted recesses in the top or upper panel 6. The

"slotted recess (around 49 in Fig. 2)" referred to by the Examiner receives nothing which fastens and, therefore, is not for receiving fastening structure as claims 16 and 19 define.

There is also nothing in the Nonaka et al. patent disclosure which suggests that the upper panel 6 is detachably fixed to the wall portion 29 "following installation of the windshield" so as to be "removable" and "replaceable" as claim 16 defines.

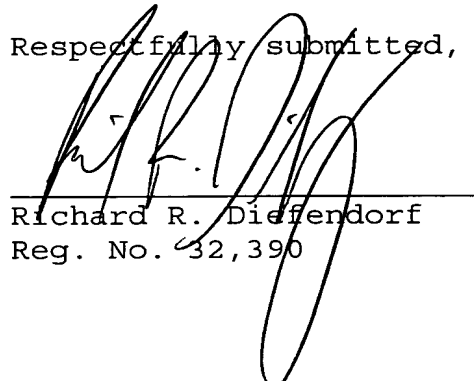
Finally, there is nothing in the Nonaka et al. patent disclosure which suggests mounting the windshield 5, mounting the wall portion 29, and subsequently detachably connecting the upper panel 6 so as to provide for the "removing", "performing a repair", and "subsequently connecting" operations defined by claim 19.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 16 and 19 are patentable in their present forms for reasons discussed above. Dependent claims 17, 18, 20, and 21 are patentable as well.

This application is in condition for allowance in its present form.

Date: August 7, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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